## **United States Department of Agriculture**



Natural Resources Conservation Service 375 Jackson Street, Suite 600 St. Paul. MN 55101-1854

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SUBJECT: INF – 2004 ENVIROTHON

Purpose. To provide information.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2004.

The 2004 Envirothon will occur on Wednesday, May 19 at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, <a href="www.prairiewoodselc.org/">www.prairiewoodselc.org/</a> near Wilmar, Minnesota. The web site for the 2004 Envirothon can be found at <a href="http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/outreach/envirothon/index.html">http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/outreach/envirothon/index.html</a>. The State competition for the Envirothon is very similar to the Regional events where the students visit various learning stations and participate in an oral presentation.

Information on the upcoming National Envirothon can be found at <a href="http://www/envirothon.org">http://www/envirothon.org</a>. Each year the National Envirothon is held in a different state. The 2004 Cannon National Envirothon will be held at Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, West Virginia, July 26 – August 1, 2004. The environmental issue will be *Natural Resource Management in an Urban Environment*. What are some of the benefits of participating in an Envirothon?

- The program provides a unique leaning opportunity for students as it promotes a desire for students to learn more about the natural environment and gives them skills to apply basic principles and practices of resource management and ecology.
- The program promotes stewardship of natural resources and helps students develop critical thinking skills, cooperative problem-solving skills and decision-making skills.
- Additionally, both schools and teachers obtain benefits by providing a learning opportunity to students who may excel in the sciences and ecology.
- The community and State benefit by having concerned and well-informed citizens who can make good decisions about the environment.

Please contact Julie MacSwain, Public Affairs Specialist, if you have any questions about the 2004 Envirothon.

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